

# FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 2



## OUR MISSION

Our mission is to support and promote the principles of Unitarian Universalism. By nurturing spirituality, intellectual growth, diversity of belief, and our ties to one another, we seek to inspire lives of passion, compassion, and community. We do this for ourselves and for the larger world.

## OUR COVENANT

As we share our lives in this place of blessed community, we promise to unite in an atmosphere of care and support, provide a spiritual home for ourselves and our children, and work together in our search for truth and caring ways to be in community with each other, both within and beyond these walls.

We seek to embody a welcoming community of

### CARING, SUPPORT, AND SERVICE

- We therefore promise to
- \*Treat each other with respect, trust, and compassion;
  - \*Actively listen to all points of view on important issues;
  - \*Create an open environment for nonjudgmental participation;
  - \*Honor dissenting views, agreeing to disagree;
  - \*Make decisions with as much participation as possible;
  - \*Accept that we will make mistakes, forgive each other, and move on;
  - \*Express gratitude for the efforts of others;
  - \*Work together to live by our Covenant; and
  - \*Try to the best of our ability to live by our Unitarian Universalist Principles and Purposes, affirming our tradition of service and justice for all.

Adopted by the members of BUUC  
May 20, 2012

Back issues of the BUUC newsletter are on our website at [www.buuc.org/newsletters](http://www.buuc.org/newsletters)

1730 (2/13) Josiah Wedgwood, founder of Wedgwood Pottery was born in Burslem, Staffordshire, England. A brilliant and innovative artist, Wedgwood was also a devoted Unitarian and philanthropist who promoted and adopted workplace policies to improve safety, cleanliness and fairer treatment of workers.



1805 (2/14) The Board of Overseers of Harvard University confirmed Henry Ware Sr. to the Hollis Professorship of Divinity at Harvard College. The move sparked the Unitarian Controversy, which split New England's Standing Order (Congregational) churches over theological issues including the doctrine of the trinity and human nature.

1939 (2/4) The American Unitarian Association sent the Rev. Waitstill Sharp and his wife Martha to Czechoslovakia to assist refugees fleeing the Nazis. The Sharps helped hundreds of people escape Nazi persecution and in 2006 were honored as Righteous Among the Nations by Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority in Israel.

### Rev. Craig's Contact Info

Phone and Email

860-916-9261,  
[revcraignowak@comcast.net](mailto:revcraignowak@comcast.net)

Office Hours

Wednesdays 9:15-10 am and 1-3 pm  
Other times by appointment

BUUC Cares: If you or someone you know at BUUC might need pastoral support, please contact Rev. Craig (contact information above).

## SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES ARE HELD AT 10:30AM.

- February 5** "Help Wanted: Inquire Within" –Rev. Craig M. Nowak; Music – Choir
- February 12** "Water and Plastic Don't Mix" – CESA (Committee on Ecology and Social Action) ; Music – Flute Trio
- February 19** "Teachers and Learners" – BUUC Youth with Rev. Craig; Music – Choir
- February 26** "A Lifetime In Their Shoes" –Jared Adams ; Music – Laura Ramsey, saxophone

## February Calendar

See page numbers for more detail and/or page 4

February 1	12:00 pm 1:30 pm	Stone Soup Luncheon Wednesday's Food For Faith
February 5	12:15 pm	Sunday's Food For Faith
February 8	7:00 pm	Women's Alliance Meeting
February 12	1:30 pm	Circle Early Supper (pg3)
February 13	7:00 pm	Book Club (pg2)
February 15	12:00pm	Committee on Ecology and Social Action (CESA) meeting
February 24	All day	BUUC UNO's Dough Rai\$er (pg3)
February 26	2:00pm	Free Winter Concert (pg2)
February 28	6:30 pm	SMOC dinner, Gilbertville, MA



*A Welcoming Congregation  
and a Green Sanctuary*

We are a fellowship of  
seekers after truth, bound  
by no dogma, restricted  
by no creed.

*Our Affirmation*

HERE: *We unite in an atmos-  
phere of care and support to  
foster spiritual health and  
growth.*

HERE: *We focus on sharing our  
ideas and histories, with  
warmth, hope, loving friendship  
and an open mind.*

HERE: *We nurture stability for  
our daily lives and seek moti-  
vation to reach out to the larger  
community.*

  
**FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS**

***FOOD FOR FAITH: Conversations to Feed Your Soul***

Based on the small group ministry or covenant group model, this series will feature short readings to stimulate reflection and conversation in a small group setting. Topics will be drawn from our monthly worship theme offering opportunities to further explore or deepen one's engagement with the theme.

**Meeting Dates**

Sunday Groups: 2/5; 3/19; 4/2 @ 12:15pm

Wednesday Group: 2/1; 3/1; 4/5 @ 1:30pm

Where: BUUC program space or Rev. Craig's office (both downstairs)

NOTE: The group is open. No preparation or reading is required ahead of time. All participants are asked to abide by the group covenant which will be established at the first session. While you may come to one or all of the sessions, the more you attend, the more all participants will benefit.

**Who's Who at  
BUUC**

**Staff**

**Minister**

Rev. Craig M. Nowak

**Religious Education Director**

Laurel Burdon

**Music Director**

Lila M. Farrar

**Office Assistant**

Angie Ellison

**Executive Committee**

**Ex-Officio member**

Rev. Craig M. Nowak

**President**

Amy Frisella

**Treasurer**

Doug Smith

**Clerk**

Colleen Groner

**Members-at-Large**

Robyn Vincent, Donna

Boyea, Kevin Snyder, Mary

Ann Adams

**Committees and Groups**

**Committee on Ministry**

Mary Frisella Roxann Smith,

Donna Sullivan

**Ecology and Social Action**

**(CESA)**

Mary Ann Adams, Chair

**Flower Committee**

Lila Farrar, Chair

**Membership Committee**

Debbie Ennis, Chair

**Nominating Committee**

Barbara Hale, Laurie Mag-

nuson, Donna Sullivan

**Trustees**

Carla Schirm, Doug Smith,

Roxann Smith

**Women's Alliance**

Laurie Magnuson, President

**Worship Committee**

Wendy Newhall, Chair

**Ultimate Team**

Ruth King, Diane Mossa,

Judy Trifone

***THE FREE WINTER CONCERT***

Local musicians will be performing on Sunday Feb 26, at 2:00 pm.

There will be no admission charged at the door, but donations will be accepted to Partners In Health. And once again, The Book Bear in West Brookfield has donated a copy of "Mountain Beyond Mountains" by Tracy Kidder telling of the work of Paul Farmer and others are doing to bring health care to the poorest people in Haiti and other parts of the world. The book will be given away at the concert. If you would like to help with coffee, cookies or clean-up, please see Lila Farrar 508 867 8806 or [lilamfarrar@gmail.com](mailto:lilamfarrar@gmail.com)

***MYSTERY MENTORS***

will culminate on February 19 with our Youth Service and Pizza party. Everyone is invited, young or old, whether you were a part of the program or not. Sign up (on the mantle) on February 12 so we know how much pizza to buy!!!

***BOOK CLUB: Special Date for February***

Monday, February 13 at 7 pm at the church. The book is Nutshell by Ian McEwan.

If you can't make it to the meeting, but would like to suggest a book for the group, please email Barb Hale at [b.lambert.hale@gmail.com](mailto:b.lambert.hale@gmail.com)

***KIDS IN CHOIR***

All children are invited to sing with the adult choir on March 19. There will be four rehearsals after church Feb 12, 26, Mar 5, and Mar 12 and/or regular Thursday rehearsals, but (parents) need to arrange the Thursday attendance with Lila. Children must attend at least three of those rehearsals. To sign up for singing, see Lila Farrar, Music Director, in person, at church, by phone at 508- 867-8806 or at [lilamfarrar@gmail.com](mailto:lilamfarrar@gmail.com)

**Community Resources Page**

At the heart of Unitarian Universalism is a deep recognition and respect for the interconnectedness of life. As a faith community, Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church seeks to foster spiritual health and growth, but we also recognize that it is equally important to encourage and empower one another to lives of physical, mental, and emotional health and well being. To that end, we have launched our Community Resources page. To access the page visit [www.buuc.org](http://www.buuc.org) and click on the "Community Resources" tab on the side menu.

**GENEROSITY ABOUNDS!**

Thank you to Donna Sullivan who, besides organizing, supervising, and providing the Holiday Decorations, along with her husband Donald Faugno, takes it all down and puts it away for another year!

**GENEROSITY ABOUNDS!**

Thank you to Fritzi Foster for the enthusiasm she brings to committee work and ushering/greeting that helps bring a joyful spirit of hospitality and service alive at BUUC.

***Interested In Membership at BUUC?***

Unitarian Universalism is a covenantal faith making membership in our community both simple and challenging. It is simple in that to become a member all that is generally required is signing the membership book. It is challenging because that is not all that is asked of our members. In addition to honoring our congregational covenant, as a member you would be asked to :

- Worship in community regularly
- Work faithfully on your own spiritual development
- Be involved in a ministry of service to others
- Share your financial resources as stewards of the present and future of this religious community
- Continue to learn and connect to the wider movement of Unitarian Universalism
- Assume responsibility for offering the genuine hospitality of this community to all who come here

Visitors and friends curious to know more or who are considering becoming a member of BUUC are invited to contact Rev. Craig.

***SPECIAL HOLIDAY OFFERING***

This year's Special Holiday Offering brought in \$2,265.00! THANK YOU to the following donors for your generous contributions: the BUUC Women's Alliance, Donna Boyea, Mike & Colleen Groner, Fritzi Foster, Kirk Upton & Laurel Hemmer, Nicole Jyringi & Tom Adams, Rob & Lee & Becky Whitman-Raymond, Wendy Newhall, Robyn Vincent, Amy & Mary Frisella, Diane Mossa, Kevin McNamara & Rev. Craig Nowak, Lucy Cowell & Kevin Snyder and the extended Schirm Family including Geoff & Carla Schirm, Carol Buchanan & Thomas Reimer, Susan Schirm, and Mary & Karl Schirm. All funds from the holiday offering will be used to support the mission of the BUUC.

***BUUC UNO's Dough Rai\$er!***

Every meal purchased with special UNO's ticket at UNO's in Sturbridge on Friday 2/24/17 will benefit the BUUC. Get your special tickets at church!

***CIRCLE EARLY SUPPER***

February 12, 1:30pm In Members' Homes

We are going to try a new twist to our Circle Supper event. Since it is much colder and the roads could be a bit icy, and it is definitely darker at night in February, we thought holding this Circle Supper in the afternoon might be a nice treat. This way people can travel more confidently and safely to homes that they may never have been to before. (Having this on a Sunday may also allow people to follow the host to their home after church service.) In addition, for those who can't attend on a Saturday night, due to work or other commitments, they have the opportunity to partake of this fun and tasty event. The food could be the same type of fare or it could be changed to a brunch style. That would be up to the host.

We hope you will consider attending this event. Meeting church members in a smaller venue can help you get to know people a little better, and my favorite benefit, help you remember their names.

If you have any questions, give Debbie Ennis a call 978-257-8062.

**THERE ARE ALLERGIES AMONG US:**

Please limit your use of scents and chemicals, and leave as much latex as possible at home.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBER**

*Kirk Upton*

**BROOKFIELD UNITARIAN  
UNIVERSALIST CHURCH**

P. O. Box 386  
9 Upper River Street  
Brookfield, MA 1506

Phone: 508-867-5145  
Email: [buuc01506@gmail.com](mailto:buuc01506@gmail.com)

We're on the web

[www.buuc.org](http://www.buuc.org)

Follow us on Facebook and  
Twitter @BrookfieldUU



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## ONGOING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

**Book Club**

*Second Tuesday of the Month – 7pm*  
JOIN US for an all inclusive (men and women of BUUC and beyond welcome), exhilarating (maybe a little strong but we're really excited) BUUC BOOK CLUB. We hope to create a group that will generate meaningful conversations about a variety of books, authors and topics. Contact Amy Frisella at [amyfrisella@hotmail.com](mailto:amyfrisella@hotmail.com) or Barb Hale [b.lambert.hale@gmail.com](mailto:b.lambert.hale@gmail.com) for more info.

**Choir Practice**

*Every Thursday at 7 pm*

**Committee for Ecology and Social Action (CESA)**

*Once a Month, Date and Time TBD*  
For information, contact Mary Ann Adams at [maryannbuuc@gmail.com](mailto:maryannbuuc@gmail.com)

**Executive Committee**

*First Monday of the month at 6:30 pm*

**Food For Faith: Adult RE**

*Sunday Group at 12:15pm and Wednesday Groups at 1:30pm*  
Based on the small group ministry or covenant group model, this series will feature short readings to stimulate reflection and conversation in a small group setting. Topics will be drawn from our monthly worship theme offering opportunities to further explore or deepen one's engagement with the theme.

**SMOC Dinner**

*Last Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm*  
Come join us as we provide a monthly meal for residents of the SMOC sober house in Gilbertville. Contact Wendy Newhall, [circle\\_dancers@yahoo.com](mailto:circle_dancers@yahoo.com) or Christine Holbrook, [holbrookchristine1@gmail.com](mailto:holbrookchristine1@gmail.com) for details.

**Stone Soup Luncheons**

*Oct – June, first Wednesday of the month, 12pm*  
All are invited for Stone Soup, where your presence is the secret (and most important) ingredient. We provide the soup and coffee/tea; you bring something to share (bread, juice, appetizer/dessert).

**Women's Alliance**

*Second Wednesday of the month, 7pm.*  
Contact Laurie Magnuson (508-867-3763)

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*For specific dates, see  
Calendar on page 1*  
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